

However, if this year's report of the Collective Measures Committee is compared with the second and third reports, it will, I think, be obvious at once that this year's report is nothing more than a convenient summary of the highlights - and I would say in general the least controversial highlights - of previous Committee reports and Assembly resolutions on this subject. These previous reports and resolutions number a great many pages comprising literally hundreds of complex technical suggestions concerning procedures and lines of action which might be followed in case of emergency, together with a great many recommendations concerning collective measures of a political, economic, financial and military nature. Two years ago, when the Assembly noted this substantial compilation of material, it recommended to member states that they continue and intensify their efforts in the field of United Nations collective measures. At the same time the Assembly directed the Collective Measures Committee to pursue such studies as it may deem desirable to strengthen the capability of the United Nations to maintain peace, taking into account the various Assembly resolutions since the Uniting for Peace resolution of 1950. At the same time the Assembly directed the Collective Measures Committee to report to the Security Council and the General Assembly not later than the ninth session.

In the intervening two years the Collective Measures Committee has met only three times, in August of this year, to prepare and approve its present report. As the seventh session of the Assembly recognized when it directed the Collective Measures Committee to report to the Ninth rather than the Eighth Session, most of the exploratory and preparatory work in this field had been done by the end of 1952. Since then the danger has been that this earlier and thorough work might be lost sight of and forgotten. As I see it, our present object is to lift from the mass of United Nations material on this subject the essential features of United Nations collective measures which we should all keep before us. This was done by the Collective Measures Committee this summer and the purpose of our resolution is to seek Assembly approval for this convenient summary of United Nations doctrine on the subject.

It is, I think, characteristic of the highly tentative and preliminary stage of international co-operation which has so far been reached that the principles for which we seek your approval are expressed in terms that cannot really be said to enlarge the commitments of any of our governments beyond those we undertook, directly or indirectly, when we signed the Charter of the United Nations. Every conceivable allowance has been made to leave members freedom of choice in the application of these principles. The principles are, as the Committee's third report says, intended merely to serve as a guide to the United Nations in undertaking collective measures. In applying these principles in any concrete situation, each state is asked, in the wording of the first principle recommended by the Committee, to make contributions "in accordance with its constitutional processes and to the extent to which in its own judgment its capacity and resources